

Supreme Court, U. S.

FILED

NOV 22 1976

MICHAEL RÓDAK, JR., CLERK

No. **76-720**

---

---

**In the Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1976

---

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PETITIONER

v.

BILLY RAY LEE

---

**PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES  
COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT**

---

**ROBERT H. BORK,**

*Solicitor General,*

**RICHARD L. THORNBURGH,**

*Assistant Attorney General,*

**JEROME M. FEIT,**

**DENNIS A. WINSTON,**

*Attorneys,*

*Department of Justice,*

*Washington, D.C. 20530.*

---

---

**In the Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1976

---

No.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PETITIONER

*v.*

BILLY RAY LEE

---

**PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES  
COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT**

---

The Solicitor General, on behalf of the United States, petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in this case.

**OPINION BELOW**

The opinion of the court of appeals (App. A, *infra*) is not yet reported.

**JURISDICTION**

The judgment of the court of appeals (App. B, *infra*) was entered on October 1, 1976. A petition for rehearing was denied on October 21, 1976 (App. C, *infra*). The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

(1)

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether 18 U.S.C. 2518(1)(b)(iv) requires the identification in a telephone interception application of every person whom the government has probable cause to believe it will overhear participating in conversations about the illegal activity under investigation.

2. Whether, if the government violated the wire interception statute in this case, suppression of the evidence derived from the intercept is justified.

## STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

The relevant statutory provisions are set out in Appendix D, *infra*.

## STATEMENT

After a jury-waived trial in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, respondent was convicted of participating in a gambling business, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1955 and 2.<sup>1</sup> He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment (all but five months and twenty-nine days of which was suspended) followed by a parole term of three years, and fined \$2,500. The court of appeals reversed his conviction,

<sup>1</sup> Respondent was indicted together with Ernest Leon Frizzell, Calvin Howard Henley, Raymond Leon Frizzell, Willard Jesse Marchman, and Frank Rittie Wells. On July 29, 1975, after denial of his suppression motion, respondent waived his right to a trial by jury and submitted his case to United States District Judge Robert Taylor on stipulated facts (C.A. App. 4a, 82a).

finding that he should have been named in the wire interception application and order and concluding that the failure to name him required suppression of his conversations and of evidence obtained in a search conducted pursuant to a warrant based on those conversations (App. A, *infra*, p. 4A). The court found the remaining evidence insufficient to support the conviction.

1. On October 30, 1974, Judge Frank Wilson of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee issued an order pursuant to Title III of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, 18 U.S.C. 2510 *et seq.* (C.A. App. 33a-36a).<sup>2</sup> The order authorized the interception of wire communications of Frank Rittie Wells, Calvin Howard Henley, Ernest Leon Frizzell, Willard Jesse Marchman, Raymond Leon Frizzell, and others as yet unknown, over telephones listed to J. C. McKinney in Chattanooga, Tennessee.<sup>3</sup> The interception was authorized for a period of 15 days but was in fact terminated on November 11, 1974. (C.A. App. 65a).

On November 15, 1974, based upon information obtained from the FBI investigation and from intercepted communications, a search warrant was obtained and various items of gambling paraphernalia were seized from respondent's business, "The Sports-

<sup>2</sup> "C.A. App." refers to the appendix in the court of appeals; we are lodging a copy of that document with the Clerk of this Court.

<sup>3</sup> J. C. McKinney is a fictitious name (C.A. App. 15a).



man" in Morristown, Tennessee (App. A, *infra*, p. 1A; C.A. App. 84a, 86a).<sup>4</sup>

2. Prior to trial, the district court held a hearing on respondent's motion to suppress his intercepted conversations on the ground, *inter alia*, that he should have been named in the interception order.<sup>5</sup> The district court ruled that the information about respondent's activities contained in the affidavit in support of the wire interception application did not establish probable cause to believe that respondent had violated federal law. Moreover, the court found, there was no indication in the affidavit that respondent was an active participant in the larger operation instead of simply one of several bookmakers<sup>6</sup> from whom the operation obtained the betting line (C.A. App. 77a-79a).

The court of appeals reversed. It concluded that when the application for the intercept order was filed the government had probable cause to believe that re-

<sup>4</sup> The stipulated facts revealed that between April 1973, and November 1974, Wells, Henley, the Frizzells, and Marchman were engaged in a bookmaking operation that entailed wagering on various athletic contests. Respondent was a bookmaker who often supplied the operation with "line" information on professional and intercollegiate football games (C.A. App. 84a-86a).

<sup>5</sup> Respondent was identified in the affidavit in support of the wire interception application as a bookmaker who supplied line information to gamblers in East Tennessee, but he was not named in the application or order itself (C.A. App. 28a-29a, 7a, 33-35a).

<sup>6</sup> Two other bookmakers besides respondent were identified in the affidavit, though not in the application or order, as having contacts with the operation (C.A. App. 22a, 29a).

spondent was participating in the Chattanooga gambling operations (App. A, *infra*, pp. 3A-4A). Relying on its decision in *United States v. Donovan*, 513 F. 2d 337 (C.A. 6), certiorari granted, 424 U.S. 907 (argued October 13, 1976), it held that since respondent was not named in the application and order, "[t]he district court should therefore have granted [respondent's] motions to suppress the evidence obtained by both the interceptions and the search" (App. A, *infra*, p. 4A).

#### REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

The questions presented by this case are now before this Court in *United States v. Donovan*, No. 75-212, argued October 13, 1976. For the reasons set forth in our brief in *Donovan*, a copy of which we are sending to respondent, we believe that Title III does not require that everyone the government has probable cause to believe it will overhear engaging in conversations concerning the illegal enterprise under investigation must be identified in an application for an interception order. But even if the statute does require such identification, we further argue that suppression of the intercepted conversations is neither authorized by statute nor justified in policy by procedural defects of this nature, particularly in the absence of any showing of government bad faith or prejudice to the defendant from the failure to identify him. Therefore, we believe the court of appeals incorrectly concluded that respondent's intercepted

telephone conversations and the evidence seized at his place of business should have been suppressed.<sup>7</sup>

Whether we are right or wrong in these contentions will be determined by this Court in *Donovan*, and the result of that case will control the disposition of the instant petition. If this Court resolves the identification issue in *Donovan* in the government's

<sup>7</sup> The opinion stated (App. A, *infra*, p. 4A):

"Since the information that was obtained by the interception cannot be employed against [respondent], the government concedes that the evidence seized in the search of [respondent's] premises must also be suppressed because the authorization for the search was based in large part on information derived from the interception. See *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963)."

This language suggests that the court of appeals may have believed that under *Donovan* a failure to name an individual who should have been identified in the application and order requires suppression against that individual of any evidence derived from the interception. *Donovan* did not so hold, and we would not concede the correctness of any such holding. The sole issue in *Donovan* concerned the admissibility of the intercepted conversations of the non-identified individuals. If this Court were to reject our arguments in *Donovan* and affirm the decision of the court of appeals, that would mean that the failure to name an individual who should have been identified requires suppression of that individual's intercepted conversations and any direct evidentiary fruits thereof. That individual would not, however, have standing to obtain suppression of intercepted conversations to which he was not a party, and evidence derived from such conversations could be used against the non-identified individual, contrary to the implication of the above-quoted language of the court of appeals in this case.

Here, however, the reversal of respondent's conviction was based upon evidence related to the interception of his conversations. Accordingly, the language of the court of appeals is dictum insofar as it suggests a broader principle of evidentiary exclusion, and this case affords no occasion to review the correctness of that language.

favor, the decision here cannot stand, and certiorari should be granted in this case and the case remanded to the court of appeals. On the other hand, should the court of appeals' ruling in *Donovan* on the identification issue be sustained, the instant petition for a writ of certiorari should be denied.

#### CONCLUSION

Consideration of this petition should be deferred pending this Court's decision in *Donovan*, and the petition should be disposed of as appropriate in light of that decision.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT H. BORK,  
*Solicitor General.*

RICHARD L. THORNBURGH,  
*Assistant Attorney General.*

JEROME M. FEIT,  
DENNIS A. WINSTON,  
*Attorneys.*

NOVEMBER 1976.

APPENDIX A

No. 75-2252

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

v.

BILLY RAY LEE, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

ON APPEAL from the United States District Court  
for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Southern  
Division

Decided and Filed October 1, 1976

Before: PECK, MCCREE, and ENGEL, *Circuit Judges*.

MCCREE, *Circuit Judge*. Billy Ray Lee appeals from his conviction for violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2, 1955, which forbid participation in a gambling business which involves more than five persons, which has revenues in excess of \$2,000 in a single day, and which violates the laws of a state (in this case, Tennessee) in which it is conducted. The dispositive issue is whether evidence seized during a search of defendant's premises pursuant to a search warrant should have been suppressed.

The warrant was based in large part upon information obtained by an interception of defendant's telephone communications pursuant to an order of the district court for the Eastern District of Tennessee. The order authorized the interception of calls to and from three telephones used by five named principal gambling investigation suspects who are not parties



to this appeal. It was issued under the authority of 18 U.S.C. § 2518, which provides, *inter alia*, that

(4) Each order authorizing or approving the interception of any wire or oral communication shall specify—

(a) the identity of the person, if known, whose communications are to be intercepted; . . . .

In *United States v. Donovan*, 513 F. 2d 337 (6th Cir. 1975), this court, following *United States v. Kahn*, 415 U.S. 143 (1974), ruled that the application and order must name all persons whom the government has probable cause to believe are committing the offense for which the wiretap is sought. Since we conclude that the rationale of *Donovan* requires the suppression of this evidence, we reverse.

The district court recognized the authority of *Donovan*, which was decided three months prior to its order denying the motion to suppress, but sought to distinguish this case on its facts.

In *Donovan*, the interception had been aimed primarily at other defendants, but information gathered from it was used to convict Buzzacco. Before the application for an extension of a prior intercept order in the same investigation, 91 calls had been made in ten weeks from the prime suspects to a telephone in Youngstown listed in a name known to be used as an alias by Buzzacco. Buzzacco had a reputation as a bookmaker from previous investigations, and had moved his place of operations in 1972 to an address in Niles. However, it was not clear from the record whether the FBI's physical surveillance had placed Buzzacco at that address prior to the intercept application. Telephone calls between other suspects and a person at the Niles address' telephone, identified only as "Buzz" or "Buzzer" had been intercepted pursuant to the prior order.

Finally, at the suppression hearing FBI Agent Ault, upon whose affidavits the wiretap orders had been based, testified that at the time of the application he had had "suspicions" that Buzzacco was involved. 513 F.2d at 431-42.

In this appeal, the FBI had received from a reliable confidential source information which was set forth in the affidavit supporting the application for an intercept order, that defendant Lee was a known bookmaker who operated "The Sportsman" in Morristown; that Lee operated in Knoxville a telephone, number 522-3741, for his bookmaking business; and that the informant had personally made use of this number to obtain "line" information for wagering on sporting contests. The affidavit further stated that this information had been corroborated by independent investigation by FBI agents and by contacts with other sources.

Furthermore, Lee had admitted to an FBI agent prior to the application that he was engaged in business as a bookmaker; that he owned the Sportsman, and that he used a telephone there, number 586-6881, for his bookmaking business. Inspection of telephone company records had also revealed "almost daily" calls from the telephones of the primary suspects named in the application and order to both number 522-3741 and number 586-6881.

To the extent that the facts here and in *Donovan* are different, this appeal presents a more compelling case for requiring that the "known" incidental subject of interception be named in the application and order.

In *Donovan*, Chief Judge Phillips, writing for the court, insisted that

[i]t is apparent that Congress intended § 2518 (1) to impose "stringent conditions," thereby

playing an integral role in the limitation of wiretap procedures and serving a substantial purpose in the statutory scheme to limit the indiscriminate or otherwise unauthorized use of wiretaps.

513 F. 2d at 340-41. Thus any omission of information required by the statute, "whether the omission was inadvertent or purposeful, . . . cannot be excused as a 'mere technical violation.'"

In *Donovan* we found a violation of § 2518(1)(a) because the identity of a "known" subject of interception had been omitted from the *application* for the intercept order. Here, on the other hand, defendant was mentioned in the affidavit submitted in support of the application, but his name was omitted from the application's list of individuals whose communications were to be intercepted. Consequently, his name also was not listed in the order itself, contrary to the requirements of § 2518(4)(a). This variance is a distinction without a difference. Indeed the government's formal admission of awareness that Lee's communications would regularly be intercepted makes this appeal a stronger case for suppressing the evidence.

Since the information that was obtained by the interception cannot be employed against Lee, the government concedes that the evidence seized in the search of Lee's premises must also be suppressed because the authorization for the search was based in large part on information derived from the interception. See *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963). The district court should therefore have granted Lee's motions to suppress the evidence obtained by both the interceptions and the search.

If the facts obtained by the unlawful interception and search are stricken from the stipulation, there

is insufficient evidence to support the conviction. This is so notwithstanding the fact that the district court apparently also relied upon defendant's implicit admission of guilt in his motion to suppress as sufficient in itself to show guilt. Since a defendant must attempt to show government knowledge amounting to probable cause to believe that he is committing the offense in order to secure the benefits of the statutory protection, such allegations may not then be used against him on the issue of guilt. Else the protections of § 2518 would be hollow indeed. Cf. *Simmons v. United States*, 390 U.S. 377 (1968).

For the foregoing reasons, the judgment of guilty entered against appellant Lee is REVERSED.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> At argument, the court was informed that certiorari was granted in *Donovan* on February 23, 1976. 96 S. Ct. 1100. In the hope that a dispositive ruling might follow promptly, we delayed our decision until this time. However, it is now five months since oral argument in our court, and the Supreme Court has not yet scheduled oral argument. Accordingly, it is likely that it will be several months before the Supreme Court review of *Donovan* is completed. The defendant should not be unjustifiably subjected to the restraints of bail and confinement. Therefore we now decide the appeal under the precedent of our circuit.



APPENDIX B

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit  
No. 75-2252

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

v.

BILLY RAY LEE, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

Before: PECK, McCREE and ENGEL, *Circuit Judges*.

JUDGMENT

APPEAL from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

THIS CAUSE came on to be heard on the record from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee and was argued by counsel.

ON CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, It is now here ordered and adjudged by this Court that the judgment of the said District Court in this cause be and the same is hereby reversed.

No costs taxed.

Entered by order of the court.

JOHN P. HEHMAN, *Clerk*.

Filed: October 1, 1976.

(6A)

APPENDIX C

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit  
No. 75-2252

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

BILLY RAY LEE, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

Before: PECK, McCREE, and ENGEL, *Circuit Judges*.

ORDER

Appellee's pleading captioned Petition for Rehearing" having come on to be heard; and it appearing that the relief requested is that the court "... stay the recent decision reversing this case ..." until the Supreme Court shall have decided the appeal in *United States v. Donovan*, 513 F.2d 337 (6th Cir. 1975); and it appearing that the decision of this court was announced October 1, eleven days before receipt of this motion to stay the decision; and it further appearing that appellee can petition for review in the Supreme Court; upon consideration, it is ORDERED that the request be, and it hereby is, DENIED.

Entered by order of the court.

JOHN P. HEHMAN, *Clerk*.

Date: October 21, 1976

(7A)

## APPENDIX D

### 18 U.S.C. 2510. *Definitions.*

\* \* \* \*

(11) "aggrieved person" means a person who was a party to any intercepted wire or oral communication or a person against whom the interception was directed.

### 18 U.S.C. 2517. *Authorization for disclosure and use of intercepted wire or oral communications.*

\* \* \* \*

(3) Any person who has received, by any means authorized by this chapter, any information concerning a wire or oral communication, or evidence derived therefrom intercepted in accordance with the provisions of this chapter may disclose the contents of that communication or such derivative evidence while giving testimony under oath or affirmation in any proceeding held under the authority of the United States or of any State or political subdivision thereof.

\* \* \* \*

### 18 U.S.C. 2518. *Procedure for interception of wire or oral communications.*

(1) Each application for an order authorizing or approving the interception of a wire or oral communication shall be made in writing upon oath or affirmation to a judge of competent jurisdiction and shall state the applicant's authority to make such

(SA)

9A

application. Each application shall include the following information:

\* \* \* \*

(b) a full and complete statement of the facts and circumstances relied upon by the applicant, to justify his belief that an order should be issued, including (i) details as to the particular offense that has been, is being, or is about to be committed, (ii) a particular description of the nature and location of the facilities from which or the place where the communication is to be intercepted, (iii) a particular description of the type of communications sought to be intercepted, (iv) the identity of the person, if known, committing the offense and whose communications are to be intercepted;

\* \* \* \*

(3) Upon such application the judge may enter an ex parte order, as requested or as modified, authorizing or approving interception of wire or oral communications within the territorial jurisdiction of the court in which the judge is sitting, if the judge determines on the basis of the facts submitted by the applicant that—

(a) there is probable cause for belief that an individual is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a particular offense enumerated in section 2516 of this chapter;

(b) there is probable cause for belief that particular communications concerning that offense will be obtained through such interception;

(c) normal investigative procedures have been tried and have failed or reasonably appear to be unlikely to succeed if tried or to be too dangerous;

(d) there is probable cause for belief that the facilities from which, or the place where,



wire or oral communications are to be intercepted are being used, or are about to be used, in connection with the commission of such offense, or are leased to, listed in the name of, or commonly used by such person.

(4) Each order authorizing or approving the interception of any wire or oral communication shall specify—

(a) the identity of the person, if known, whose communications are to be intercepted;

(b) the nature and location of the communications facilities as to which, or the place where, authority to intercept is granted;

(c) a particular description of the type of communication sought to be intercepted, and a statement of the particular offense to which it relates;

(d) the identity of the agency authorized to intercept the communications, and of the person authorizing the application; and

(e) the period of time during which such interception is authorized, including a statement as to whether or not the interception shall automatically terminate when the described communication has been first obtained.

\* \* \* \* \*

(6) Whenever an order authorizing interception is entered pursuant to this chapter, the order may require reports to be made to the judge who issued the order showing what progress has been made toward achievement of the authorized objective and the need for continued interception. Such reports shall be made at such intervals as the judge may require.

\* \* \* \* \*

(8) \* \* \* (d) Within a reasonable time but not later than ninety days after the filing of an application for an order of approval under section 2518(7)

(b) which is denied or the termination of the period of an order or extensions thereof, the issuing or denying judge shall cause to be served, on the persons named in the order or the application, and such other parties to intercepted communications as the judge may determine in his discretion that is in the interest of justice, an inventory which shall include notice of—

(1) the fact of the entry of the order or the application;

(2) the date of the entry and the period of authorized, approved or disapproved interception, or the denial of the application; and

(3) the fact that during the period wire or oral communications were or were not intercepted.

The judge, upon the filing of a motion, may in his discretion make available to such person or his counsel for inspection such portions of the intercepted communications, applications and orders as the judge determines to be in the interest of justice. On an ex parte showing of good cause to a judge of competent jurisdiction the serving of the inventory required by this subsection may be postponed.

(9) The contents of any intercepted wire or oral communication or evidence derived therefrom shall not be received in evidence or otherwise disclosed in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding in a Federal or State court unless each party, not less than ten days before the trial, hearing, or proceeding, has been furnished with a copy of the court order, and accompanying application, under which the interception was authorized or approved. \* \* \*

(10)(a) Any aggrieved person in any trial, hearing, or proceeding in or before any court, depart-



ment, officer, agency, regulatory body, or other authority of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof, may move to suppress the contents of any intercepted wire or oral communication, or evidence derived therefrom, on the grounds that—

(i) the communication was unlawfully intercepted;

(ii) the order of authorization or approval under which it was intercepted is insufficient on its face; or

(iii) the interception was not made in conformity with the order of authorization or approval.

\* \* \* \* \*

DEC 13 1976

EL RODAK, JR., CLERK

IN THE  
**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

OCTOBER TERM, 1976

NO. 76-720

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Petitioner,*

*v.*

BILLY RAY LEE,  
*Respondent.*

*On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United  
States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit*

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT, BILLY RAY LEE,  
IN OPPOSITION

H. M. BACON,  
JOHN F. DUGGER,  
209 East Main Street,  
Morristown, TN 37814,

*Attorneys for Respondent.*

## INDEX TO BRIEF

	Page
OPINION BELOW .....	1
JURISDICTION .....	2
RESTATEMENT OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ....	2
STATEMENT .....	2
ARGUMENT .....	6
CONCLUSION .....	12

## CITATIONS

### *Cases:*

<i>Alderman v. U. S.</i> ,	
394 U.S. 165, 22 L.Ed.2d 176,	
89 S.Ct. 961 .....	8, 9
<i>Berger v. New York</i> ,	
388 U.S. 41, 18 L.Ed.2d 1040	
87 S.Ct. 1873, page 1049 L. Ed. ....	8
<i>Camara v. Municipal Court</i> ,	
387 U.S. 523, 18 L.Ed.2d 930,	
87 S.Ct. 1727 .....	8
<i>Hoffa v. U. S.</i> ,	
385 U.S. 293, 17 L.Ed.2d 374,	
87 S.Ct. 408 .....	11
<i>Jones v. U. S.</i> ,	
362 U.S. 257, 261, 4 L.Ed.2d 697, 702,	
80 S.Ct. 725, 78 ALR 2d 233 (1960) .....	10
<i>Katz v. U. S.</i> ,	
389 U.S. 347, 19 L.Ed.2d 576,	
88 S.Ct. 507, p. 583 L. Ed. ....	8
<i>U. S. v. Donovan</i> ,	
513 F.2d 337 .....	3, 8



<i>U. S. v. Giordano</i> , 416 U.S. 505, 40 L.Ed.2d 341, 94 S.Ct. 1820 .....	9
<i>U. S. v. Kahn</i> , 415 U.S. 143, 39 L.Ed.2d 225, 94 S.Ct. 977 .....	3, 12
<i>U. S. v. U. S. District Court</i> , 407 U.S. 297, 32 L.Ed.2d 752, 92 S.Ct. 2125 .....	8
<i>U. S. v. White</i> , 401 U.S. 745 .....	11
<i>Wolfe v. Colorado</i> , 338 U.S. 25, 27, 93 L.Ed. 1782, 1785, 69 S.Ct. 1359 (1949) .....	8

**Statutes:**

18 U.S.C. §2 .....	3
18 U.S.C. §1955 .....	3
18 U.S.C. §2510(11) .....	9
18 U.S.C. §2518(10a) .....	9
18 U.S.C. §2518(1)(b)(vi) .....	2
28 U.S.C. §1254(1) .....	2

IN THE  
**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

OCTOBER TERM, 1976

NO. 76-720

---

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Petitioner,*

*v.*

BILLY RAY LEE,

*Respondent.*

---

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI  
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

---

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT,  
BILLY RAY LEE, IN OPPOSITION

---

OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit  
is not yet recorded. (Pet. App. A)

## JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals was entered on October 1, 1976. A petition for rehearing was denied on October 21, 1976. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1). The Petition for Certiorari was timely filed on November 22, 1976, within an extension of time granted by the Court.

## RESTATEMENT OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether 18 U.S.C. 2518(1)(b)(iv) requires the naming of a person in an application for telephone interception who is a target of a government investigation and whom the government has probable cause to believe is committing the offense and that his communications will be intercepted.

2. Whether respondent's telephonic communications were unlawfully intercepted in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

## STATEMENT

On October 30, 1974, Frank W. Wilson, U. S. District Judge, at Chattanooga, Tennessee executed an order authorizing special agents of the FBI to intercept wire communications of Frank Rittie Wells, Calvin Howard Henley, Ernest Leon Frizzell, Willard Jesse Marchman, Raymond Leon Frizzell and others as yet unknown concerning an illegal gambling business in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1955 to and from telephones subscribed to and by J. C. McKinney (a fictitious name) and located at Chattanooga, Tennessee and carrying telephone number (615) 886-4404, which was connected by a rotary device to (615) 886-4405 and (615) 886-4406.

The application for the order did not name the respondent as being one of the persons committing the offense and whose communications were to be intercepted. The order of the District Court did not name the respondent as being one of the persons whose communications were to be intercepted (C.A. App. 5a-32a, 33a-36a).

The respondent was indicted along with the five individuals named in the application and in the order of the District Judge for participating in a gambling business in violation of 18 USC 1955 and 2 (C.A. App. 4a, 82a).

The respondent, after a denial of his motion to suppress by the District Court, waived a jury trial and stipulated all of the facts. The District Court found respondent guilty and sentenced him to two years imprisonment and a fine of \$2,500.00. All but five months and twenty-nine days was suspended and respondent placed on probation for a term of three years following the five months, twenty-nine days imprisonment.

The U. S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, following *U. S. v. Donovan*, 513 F.2d 337 and *United States v. Kahn*, 415 U.S. 143, 39 L. Ed.2d 225, 94 S.Ct. 977, reversed his conviction, finding that he should have been named in the application and order and concluding that the failure to name him required suppression of his communications. Respondent's place of business was searched by the FBI with a search warrant issued pursuant to an affidavit based in part upon communications intercepted pursuant to the order and the Court of Appeals held that the evidence obtained in the search of his premises should have been suppressed.

Respondent contends that a reversal of *United States v. Donovan*, No. 75-212 argued October 13, 1976 would

not require a reversal of this case for the reason that the respondent was a target of the government's investigation and the government had probable cause to believe that he was committing the offense and that his communications would be intercepted. Respondent further contends that since he was a target of the investigation and his communications were intercepted without an order of the District Court that his communications were unlawfully intercepted in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution.

The record shows that the government, at the time it made application for the wire tap order, had knowledge of the following:

1. That respondent, Billy Ray Lee, was a bookmaker operating the Sportsman, 223 West Main Street, Morristown, Tennessee, with Knoxville telephone listing 615-522-3741 and Morristown telephone listing 615-586-6881, both phones being located at the Sportsman, Morristown, Tennessee. That Lee accepted wagers on sports events and furnished the daily "line" information on sports events to bettors and *other bookmakers* in East Tennessee when telephonic request was made.

2. The affidavit of FBI Agent Benton sets out facts to show that the five named Chattanooga individuals were involved in illegal gambling activities and that they were using the telephone numbers (615) 886-4404, 886-4405 and 886-4406.

3. The government reviewed telephone company records of long distance telephone calls made from Chattanooga number 615-886-4404 etc. for the period February 5, 1974, to October 4, 1974, a period of eight months. FBI Agent Benton in his affidavit attached to the application for the wire tap order stated that almost daily calls were

made from Chattanooga number 886-4404, etc. to this defendant's Knoxville number 522-3741 and to this defendant's Morristown number 586-6881.

4. A review of the telephone company records filed with the stipulation shows that sixty percent of the long distance calls made from the Chattanooga number 615-886-4404, etc. were made to this defendant's telephone numbers 522-3741 and 586-6881 during the period February 5 to October 4, 1974. That a total of 383 long distance calls were made to this defendant's two numbers during this period. These records further show that the Chattanooga individuals used the Chattanooga phone to call this defendant's two telephones during the month of February, 1974, 52 times; during March, 42 times; during April, 51 times; during May 68 times; during June, 42 times; from July 1 to July 4, 8 times; from August 5 to August 31, 40 times; during September, 72 times; and from October 1 through October 4, 8 times. Counsel was not furnished copies of records for the period July 4 to August 5, 1974, a period of thirty days.

5. FBI Agent Benton in his affidavit stated:

"Based on my eight years' experience as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, devoted primarily to gambling violations, it is known by me that in order for a bookmaker to have the best chance of making a profit and to stimulate betting activity, it is necessary for him to receive and/or to furnish the 'line' from or to another gambler. The 'line' is the point spread or odds on a sports event. I also know that the 'line' is disseminated telephonically."



6. Agent Benton's affidavit further stated:

"I know based on my experience and the experience of other Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that in order for a bookmaker to operate a profitable business, he must accept bets telephonically. The bookmakers must also have accounts with other bookmakers from whom he receives or to whom he places lay-off bets. Lay-off bets are bets made from one bookmaker to another as insurance to cover an excessive amount of bets that he has taken on one team."

7. Agent Benton's affidavit further stated:

"I know through contacts with confidential sources and other bookmakers that Frank Rittie Wells has a daily 'line' on sporting events which is available to his customers and to other bookmakers in the Chattanooga area. Normal investigative efforts to establish the origin of his 'line' information have made with unproductive results."

### ARGUMENT

The government knew that the defendant was a bookmaker operating in Morristown, Tennessee, and that he furnished "line" information to other bookmakers in East Tennessee when telephonic request was made to either of his telephone numbers 522-3741 or 586-6881.

The government knew that the five Chattanooga individuals, Frank Rittie Wells, et al, were engaged in an illegal bookmaking business in Chattanooga and that they used telephone numbers 615/886-4404, 886-4405 and 886-4406 to transact said business.

The government knew that it was necessary for a bookmaker to receive and/or furnish the "line" from or to another gambler and that telephones were used to furnish the "line".

The government knew that Frank Rittie Wells received the "line" daily and that he furnished it locally to bettors in Chattanooga, Tennessee, but the government did not have proof beyond a reasonable doubt of the source of Frank Rittie Wells' "line".

The government knew that Frank Rittie Wells' telephone numbers 886-4404 etc. were used almost daily to call defendant's number 586-6881 and that Wells' number was almost used daily to call defendant's number 522-3741 and that 60% of the long distance calls made from Chattanooga number 886-4404, etc. were made to this defendant's telephone during the period February 5, 1974 to October 4, 1974.

The only thing the government did not have was direct proof of the contents of the telephone conversations. Since defendant furnished a "line" to another bookmaker whenever a request was made and Frank Rittie Wells received the "line" daily, and made daily telephone calls to defendant's telephones, there was certainly probable cause to believe that defendant furnished the "line" to Frank Rittie Wells in said telephone conversations.

The affidavit of FBI Agent Benton, filed with the application, shows that the government was seeking proof of the origin of the "line" information furnished to the Chattanooga operation and that the government had probable cause to believe that respondent furnished the "line" information in said telephone conversations. The respondent was thus a principal target of the investigation.

The government in its brief in the case of *United States v. Donovan*, No. 75-212, argued October 13, 1976, admits in footnote 13, page 18 that if two or more persons are known to be using the telephone equally to commit the offense, and thus are equal targets of the investigation, all must be named.

The Fourth Amendment protects people—and not simply 'areas'—against unreasonable searches and seizures." *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 19 L. Ed.2d 576, 88 S.Ct. 507, page 583 L. Ed. "The security of one's privacy against arbitrary intrusion by the police—which is at the core of the Fourth Amendment, is basic to a free society." *Wolfe v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25, 27, 93 L. Ed. 1782, 1785, 69 S.Ct. 1359 (1949) "The basic purpose of this amendment, as recognized in countless decisions of this Court, is to safeguard the privacy and security of individuals against arbitrary invasion by government officials." *Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523, 18 L. Ed.2d 930, 87 S.Ct. 1727. *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41, 18 L. Ed.2d 1040, 87 S.Ct. 1873, page 1049 L. Ed.

Respondent's rights under the Fourth Amendment are personal rights. *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165, 22 L. Ed.2d 176, 89 S.Ct. 961.

It seems to be now well settled that oral communications are protected by the Fourth Amendment. *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41, 18 L. Ed.2d, 1040, 87 S.Ct. 1873; *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 19 L. Ed.2d 576, 88 S.Ct. 507.

Mr. Justice Powell, in *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297, 32 L. Ed.2d 752, 92 S.Ct. 2125, in delivering the opinion of the Court, said:

"The act represents a comprehensive attempt by Congress to promote more effective control of crime while protecting the privacy of individual thought and expression. Much of Title III was drawn to meet the constitutional requirements for electronic surveillance enunciated by this Court in *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41, 18 L. Ed.2d 1040, 87 S.Ct. 1873 (1967); and *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 19 L. Ed.2d 576, 88 S.Ct. 507 (1967)."

The act in 18 U.S.C. 2515 provides for the suppression of evidence obtained in violation of the requirements of the act even though the violation does not have constitutional overtones. *United States v. Giordano*, 416 U.S. 505, 40 L. Ed.2d 341, 94 S.Ct. 1820.

The act, 18 U.S.C. 2510 (11), defines "aggrieved person" as a person who was a party to any intercepted wire or oral communication or a person against whom the interception was directed. 18 U.S.C. 2518 (10a) grants any "aggrieved person" the right to move to suppress the contents of any intercepted wire or oral communication, or evidence derived therefrom, on the following three grounds:

"(i) the communication was unlawfully intercepted; (ii) the order of authorization or approval under which it was intercepted is insufficient on its face; or (iii) the interception was not made in conformity with the order of authorization or approval."

Mr. Justice White in *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165, 22 L. Ed.2d 176, 89 S.Ct. 961, page 185 L. Ed. said in delivering the opinion of the Court:



"The exclusionary rule fashioned in *Weeks v. United States*, 232 U.S. 383, 58 L. Ed. 652, 34 S. Ct. 341 (1941), and *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 6 L. Ed. 1081, 81 S. Ct. 1684, 84 ALR2d 933 (1961), excludes from a criminal trial any evidence seized from the defendant in violation of his Fourth Amendment rights. Fruits of such evidence are excluded as well. *Silverthorne Lumber Co. v. United States*, 251 U.S. 385, 391-392, 64 L. Ed. 319, 321, 322, 40 S. Ct. 182, 24 ALR 1426 (1920) Because the Amendment now affords protection against the uninvited ear, oral statements, if illegally overheard, and their fruits are also subject to suppression. *Silverman v. United States*, 365 U.S. 505, 5 L. Ed. 2d 734, 81 S. Ct. 679, 97 ALR2d 1277 (1961); *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 19 L. Ed. 2d 576, 88 S. Ct. 507 (1967)."

The Court in *Alderman v. United States*, supra, applied the constitutional rule adopted in *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 261 4 L. Ed. 2d 697, 702, 80 S. Ct. 725, 78 ALR2d 233 (1960) to illegally overheard oral statements. The constitutional rule as stated in *Jones v. United States* is as follows:

"In order to qualify as a 'person aggrieved by an unlawful search and seizure' one must have been a victim of a search or seizure, one against whom the search was directed, as distinguished from one who claims prejudice only through the use of evidence gathered as a consequence of a search or seizure directed at someone else...

Ordinarily, then, it is entirely proper to require of one who seeks to challenge the legality of a search as the basis for suppressing relevant

evidence that he allege, and if the allegation be disputed that he establish, that he himself was the victim of an invasion of privacy."

Since the respondent was a target of the investigation, it is submitted that he was entitled under the Fourth Amendment to have a Judge determine whether or not his communications could be intercepted by the government.

The government in its brief in *Donovan v. United States*, supra, takes the position that the fact that the interception was authorized by a District Court stands on the same footing as if the interception had been made with the named target's permission, citing *United States v. White*, 401 U.S. 745 and *Hoffa v. United States*, 385 U.S. 293, 17 L. Ed. 2d 374, 87 S. Ct. 408. The Court in *Hoffa v. United States*, held that the Fourth Amendment did not protect a wrongdoer's misplaced belief that a person in whom he voluntarily confides his wrongdoing will not reveal it. The Court in *Hoffa v. United States* stated that Hoffa was relying upon his misplaced confidence that Partin would not reveal his wrongdoing. In footnote 6, the Court said:

"The applicability of the Fourth Amendment if Partin had been a stranger to the petitioner is a question we do not decide."

The government's position overlooks the proposition that respondent also has rights under the Fourth Amendment which he has not waived by misplacing his confidence in the person to whom he communicated.



## CONCLUSION

Respondent respectfully contends that *United States v. Kahn*, supra, correctly held that Title III requires the naming of a person in the application or interception order when the law enforcement authorities have probable cause to believe that that individual is "committing the offense" for which the wire tap is sought. That if this Court should overrule *Donavan v. United States* that this Court should deny the petition for certiorari in this case for the reason that the respondent was a principal target of the investigation and for the further reason that his communications were unlawfully intercepted in violation of the Fourth Amendment.

JOHN F. DUGGER

H. M. BACON

209 East Main Street  
Morristown, TN 37814  
*Attorneys for Respondent*

DECEMBER, 1976.